**Montana**
**Office of Public Instruction**
Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

opi.mt.gov

MontCAS
Montana Comprehensive Assessment System

## October 2016 JUMP Newsletter

**Welcome to JUMP, the OPI MontCAS online assessment newsletter. JUMP is published several times during the year to announce important assessment and data events. It provides up-to-date information necessary for the administration of statewide assessments and the accompanying data collections.**

## 2016-17 MONTCAS Schedule of Events

| Assessment Window | Assessment/Event | Grades |
|---|---|---|
| **Tentative:** December 7, 2016 – February 15, 2017 | English Language Proficiency (ELP) | K-12 |
| **January 12-13, 2017** | Missoula Assessment & Data Conference, Hilton Garden Inn. Conference information and registration will be online by early November. | All |
| **January 26-27, 2017** | Billings Assessment & Data Conference, Crowne Plaza. Conference information and registration will be online by early November. | All |
| **February 20 – March 24, 2017** | CRT Alternate Science | 4, 8 and 10 |
| **March 1 – March 24, 2017** | CRT Science | 4, 8 and 10 |
| **TBA** (March 2017) | Test Window Count Date | 3-8, 10-11 |
| **March 22 – May 26, 2017** | Montana Smarter Balanced, English Language Arts and Math | 3-8 (and grade 11 for private accredited schools) |
| **Tentative:** March 6 – May 12, 2017 | MSAA Alternate Assessment, English Language Arts and Math | 3-8 |
| **Tentative:** March 6 – May 12, 2017 | MSAA Alternate Assessment, English Language Arts and Math | 11 |
| **April 19, 2017 (Wednesday)** | ACT with Writing Initial Test Date | Public school students in gr. 11 |
| **April 19 – May 3, 2017** | ACT with Writing Accommodations Window | Public school students in gr. 11 |
| **May 3, 2017 (Wednesday)** | ACT with Writing Makeup Test Date | Public school students in gr. 11 |

# Participation Options for MontCAS Assessments

1. **Student takes the general CRT, Smarter, Grade 11 ACT, or ELP (English Language Proficiency) tests with no accommodations.**
2. **Student takes the general CRT, Grade 11 ACT, Smarter, or ELP (English Language Proficiency) assessments with the use of accommodations;**
   - **For more information on accommodations for each of the above assessments, please consult the MontCAS webpage accommodations section for each assessment.**
3. **Student takes a MontCAS alternate assessment**
   The decisions as to whether a student with disabilities will participate in the regular or the alternate assessment and what accommodations, if any, are to be provided to the student must be documented in the student's IEP prior to administrating assessments. Eligibility requirements for the three MontCAS alternate assessments are located online:
   http://opi.mt.gov/pdf/Assessment/SMART/16EligibilityGuidelinesMontCASAlt.pdf

**MontCAS Alternate Assessments**
- Science CRT: Science CRT-Alternate
- Smarter ELA and Math and ACT ELA and Math: MSAA
- ELP: Alternate for English Language Learners
- **Alternate Assessment Registration**
  - **MSAA and CRT-ALT Directions**
    - Mark eligible students in the Alternate Assessment checkbox under the Statewide Assessments editor of the student's current locked IEP in your AIM system.
    - If you do not mark this box, and a new IEP has not been written, you will need to create an amendment on the current locked IEP in the AIM system and check the Alternate Assessment box.
    - Please make sure your student's current IEP is locked in the AIM system as we are unable to extract the Statewide Assessments information on IEPs and/or amendments that are unlocked.
    - If you have questions on the Alternate Assessment Box, please contact Mary Graff mgraff@mt.gov 406-444-0685
  - **MSAA Only:** Once the steps above are complete, the student (s) is registered for the MSAA.
  - **CRT-Alt:** In addition to the steps above, follow the directions in the CRT and ALT Important Dates' table on page 3 as students also need to be registered with Measured Progress.
  - **ELP:** Contact Yvonne Field, yfield@mt.gov 406-444-0748

## SMARTER

### Summative Assessment

- The shipping date for spring 2016 paper copies of parent/guardian reports and folder labels is the week October 17. Reports are shipped to system test coordinators.
- On the TIDE *Add Users* page, when the following appears select "No."

  *Completed TA Cert. Course: ○ Yes  ○ No*

  - The Certification Course should be taken closer to the test administration and is required for all educators who administer the 2017 Smarter. Once a user completes the certification, the flag will automatically change to Yes.
- **Smarter Braille:** Online and paper versions are available.
  - Tactile graphics are required for the online Math Braille and need to be ordered by **January 27, 2017.**
  - Orders for paper versions are due by **January 27, 2017**.
  - Contact Brittany Valdez at Measured Progress to order the tactile graphics and paper orders as needed. Please call her or email her with possible times for her to call you directly as no student information should be included in voice or emails.
    valdez.brittany@measuredprogress.org (603) 749-9102 x7488

### Interim Assessment

- The Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs) are ready and available for use, on demand, cost-free
  - Focus on small sets of related concepts and provide detailed information for instructional purposes
  - May be used to measure students' knowledge and skills in grade levels other than their enrolled grades for both mathematics and ELA
  - Flexible, shorter administration time and electronic scoring (except the performance tasks)
- Power point slides and the recorded webinar are online

http://opi.mt.gov/PDF/Assessment/SMART/Smarter_Interim_Introduction_je_js_ms.pdf
http://opi.mt.gov/streamer/Assessment/16SeptMontCASInterimWebinar.mp4

## CRT&ALT

### Science CRT and CRT-Alt

### Important Dates

| Date | Event | Details |
|---|---|---|
| September 2015 | Student parent/guardian reports were mailed to all systems in early September. | • **Interpretive Guide** http://opi.mt.gov/pdf/Assessment/CRT/16CRT_CRTAlt_InterpGuide.pdf <br> • **Released Items** http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/index.html?gpm=1_4 (click on Practice) |
| October 3, 2016- January 13, 2017 | **CRT-Alt Registration Windows** <br><br> **October 3 – December 2, 2016:** For students currently enrolled <br> **January 2 – January, 13, 2017:** For students who enroll in your school after December 2, 2016 <br> **After January 13, 2017:** For students who enroll in your school after December 1, 2016, please contact OPI. | • Student enrollment in AIM needs to indicate that the student is taking an alternate ( Please see the alternate eligibility link on page 2) <br> • Because materials need to be prepared for the CRT-Alternate, in addition to designating students for the alternate in AIM, please register the students online: http://iservices.measuredprogress.org/ <br> • Choose Montana, then CRT Alternate Registration |

| November 7, 2016 | **Braille** counts for the Spring 2017 Science CRT (No Names Please) | Contact Brittany Valdez by phone or email valdez.brittany@measuredprogress.org (603) 749-9102 x7488 and provide the following information: grade, school, number needed, and format (contracted or non-contracted). |
|---|---|---|
| October 31, 2016 – January 23, 2017 | Window for **Large Print** Orders | http://iservices.measuredprogress.org/ Choose Montana, then Large Print Order |

## ACT with Writing

### Upcoming Dates and Events

| Date | Description | Details |
|---|---|---|
| October 24 | ACT Online Prep (AOP) opens for Montana use | ACT Test Coordinators will receive information on AOP setup. |
| November 7 | ACT recorded Accommodations Training Webcasts become available | Both PA Next (online district and school portal) and TAA (Test Accessibility and Accommodations) will go live. Specific information is on the 2016-17 schedule of events. http://opi.mt.gov/pdf/Assessment/ACT/16_17ACT_Schedule.pdf |
| November 7, 2016 – March 10, 2017 | Submission window for ACT accommodations | Submit ACT-Approved Accommodations requests in TAA. |
| November 22, 2016, 3:30 – 4:30 pm | Live accommodations webinar and Q&A session. | ACT school and system level Test Coordinators will be emailed invitations to register. |

## English Language Proficiency Assessment
## ACCESS 2.0

### ELP Webinar Schedule

| Date/Time | Topics and Audience District and School Administrators Title III Directors System Test Coordinators ESL/Bilingual Teachers | Link will open at 2:00 PM • Click on the appropriate link. • Complete the survey/submit (You will be automatically routed to the webinar.) |
|---|---|---|
| October 10, 2016 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM | ELL program participation deadline, ACCESS for ELLs test preparation | http://app.keysurvey.com/f/1074370/4af1/ |
| November 1, 2016 3:00 PM - 4:00PM | Technology setup, accounts, training, materials, test setup | http://app.keysurvey.com/f/1074373/9430/ |
| November 29, 2016 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Kindergarten ACCESS for ELLS - speaking scoring | http://app.keysurvey.com/f/1074376/1422/ |

| December 6, 2016<br>3:00 PM - 4:00 PM | Test window kickoff, ordering additional materials, troubleshooting during testing | http://app.keysurvey.com/f/1074379/61ff/ |
|---|---|---|
| January 24, 2017<br>3:00 PM – 4:00 PM | End of test window tasks, materials return, submitting tests, | http://app.keysurvey.com/f/1074385/59c0/ |
| April 11, 2017<br>3:00-4:30 PM | ACCCESS for ELLs Results Reports | http://app.keysurvey.com/f/1074386/95c1/ |

![msaa logo] Multi-State Alternate Assessment

## Multi State Alternate Assessment

Registration information for students eligible for the MSAA in ELA and Math grades 3-8 and 11 is on page 2 of this issue.

- Accommodations for the MSAA that need to be included in IEPs are
  - Assistive Technology for presentation of items to students
  - Assistive Technology for student response to items
  - Paper version of items
  - Scribe/Transcription
  - Sign Language (e.g. ASL, PSE, SEE)

## MontCAS Contact Information

Temporary Part Time Administrative Assistant 406-444-2577

Yvonne Field, ELP and MSAA Alternate Lead, yfield@mt.gov  406-444-0748

Pam Birkeland, Digital Library and Special Projects, pbirkeland@mt.gov  406-560-2060

Paula Schultz, Smarter Accommodations Lead, pschultz2@mt.gov

Jessica Eilertson, Incoming State Assessment Director, jeilertson@mt.gov  406-444-3511

Judy Snow, Outgoing State Assessment Director, jsnow@mt.gov  406-444-3656

Measured Progress Montana Help Desk:  montanahelpdesk@measuredprogress.org

MontCAS Website:  http://opi.mt.gov/curriculum/MontCAS/

*October 2016 JUMP Newsletter:  Prepared by the Montana Office of Public Instruction, Denise Juneau, State Superintendent*